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A Doctoral Resume

The Hindi Adaptations of Shakespeare's Macbeth, Othello and Hamlet as Maqbool, Omkara and Haider: A Comparative Study

Submitted for
The Registration of Ph.D. Degree in English

Under the Faculty of Humanities
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I. INTRODUCTION

William Shakespeare has been an unending source of inspiration for the writers of the world. In India, especially in Hindi films, his plays have been adapted into Hindi films. This started as back as 1982 with *Angoor*, the Hindi adaptation of Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors* by Gulzar. In the recent times, there has been a trend of his adaptations into Hindi movies. Vishal Bharadwaj himself has adapted his *Hamlet* into *Haider*, *Macbeth* into *Maqbool* and *Othello* into *Omkara.* Mr. Bharadwaj's fascination with William Shakespeare might have something to do with his mentor Gulzar. In 1968, a Bengali film *Bhrantibilas* appeared which was an adaptation of Ishwar Chandra Chatterjee's Bengali play based on *The Comedy of Errors*. Gulzar's *Angoor* is also said to be an adaptation of *Bhrantibilas*. This venturesome journey of adaptations was both, easy and lucrative, and eventually thrived in the Hindi film industry. It is observed, during the 80"s and 90"s in Indian films, typical long and philosophical dialogues were in fashion. The dialogues of Javed Akhtar's, Amjad Khan's and Raj Kapoor's films were long, and typically stretched out of proportion. That trend is completely out of fashion now. This era, however, is the era of new generation which prefers short and effective dialogues. In *Maqbool*, *Omkara* and *Hamlet*, typical Shakespearean dialogues are not noticed. They are short and deeply pricking ones.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The proposed research work has Following objectives:

1. To study and analyze closely the original text of *Macbeth, Othello* and *Hamlet* by Shakespeare.
2. To watch, observe and analyze *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider* as an adaptation of *Macbeth, Othello* and *Hamlet* respectively.
3. To identify the common points between these six masterpieces.
4. To analyze the similarities and differences between the dramas & films.
5. To draw conclusions based on this study.

III. HYPOTHESIS:

The present study is based on the following hypothesis:

1. *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider* are not hundred per cent copy of *Macbeth, Othello* and *Hamlet*.
2. *Macbeth, Othello* and *Hamlet* remain the inspiration for a new seed of story that resulted into *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider*.
3. The Indian film maker of *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider* have set this film in Indian scenario.

IV. SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS:

The present research aims at comparing Shakespeare's *Macbeth, Othello* and *Hamlet* and the Indian remakes or adaptations in Hindi as *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider* released in 2003, 2006 & 2014 and directed by Vishal Bharadwaj. There will not be any reference or interpretation of Shakespeare's other plays except these three, and no other films apart from these by Vishal Bharadwaj based on Shakespeare's plays.

V. CHAPTER SCHEME

The tentative chapter scheme of the proposed research work:

Chapter I: Introduction

Chapter II*: Macbeth* and *Maqbool*: Structures and Treatments

Chapter III: *Othello* and *Omkara*: Structures and Treatments

Chapter IV: *Hamlet* and *Haider*: Structures and Treatments

Chapter V: Conclusion

A Select Bibliography

The first chapter will provide a brief outline of the different adaptation theories. It will also deal with the literary texts adapted into Indian cinema and Shakespeare's Bollywood adaptations from the beginning.

The second chapter would study a comparative analysis of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and Vishal Bhardwaj's *Maqbool*. It will also study the structures and treatments given to these two masterpieces by original dramatist and film director.

The third chapter attempts with the comparative analysis of Shakespeare's *Othello* and Vishal Bhardwaj's *Omkara*. This chapter would also study the structures, treatments and different devices like imagery, irony, soliloquies, asides, music and setting used by Shakespeare and Vishal Bhardwaj in their work.

The fourth chapter proposes to compare and contrast the similarities and differences between Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and Vishal Bhardwaj's *Haider*. It will also study the different kind of structures and treatments specified to this drama and the film.

The fifth chapter intends to sum up the arguments of earlier chapters and will ultimately come to a certain conclusion.

VI. RELEVANCE OF THE STUDY:

The present research is unique and significant in many senses. It is interesting and also important to see how the Bard is still relevant in the twenty first century. It is important also because he is still inspiring the film makers like Vishal Bharadwaj. Therefore, it is not sufficient just to see and witness what *Macbool, Omkara* and *Haider* are? The audience and students of literature need to know how Shakespeare is still relevant. Why we should still study him? Why *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider* were made in the way they were made? The present study intends to bring out this study and clear away above all the mentioned points.

Shakespeare is served on the silver screen to the literate and illiterate masses of the society through *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider*. So far out of the theatre and films, they were presented to a highly educated audience or only to the literary scholars in schools, colleges and universities. The films like *Maqbool, Omkara* and *Haider* as adaptations have taken Shakespeare to the illiterate masses. Therefore, the significance of the present study becomes still important because the academia needs to know how cinema is inspired by the classics of the world.

VII. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

1. The present research would limit to explore the similarities and dissimilarities between these six masterpieces – The texts and films.

2. The philosophy of Shakespeare on life, truth, moral and evil will be in its adapted form.

3. This study would undertake a serious discussion, analysis and Shakespeare's observations of human relationships.

4. The search would employ primary methodology of research prescribed in the M.L.A. research handbook, 8th edition.

5. Mainly the present research would stand upon the primary and secondary data collected during the research work and also observed close documentation of bibliography and webliography.

6. The conclusion would formulate the final findings based on the study.

VIII. PROBABLE DATE OF COMPLETION OF WORK

The present research work would probably be completed within two to three years from the date of registration.

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